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HAND BOOK OF THE STATE HOUSE

AT

PHILADELPHIA.

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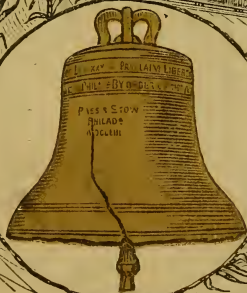
PUBLISHED BY

David Scattergood,

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PHILADELPHIA.



SCATTERGOOD

FOR SALE AT THE STATE HOUSE.

HAND BOOK

OF

THE STATE HOUSE

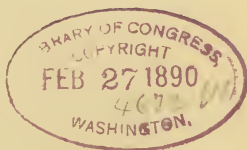
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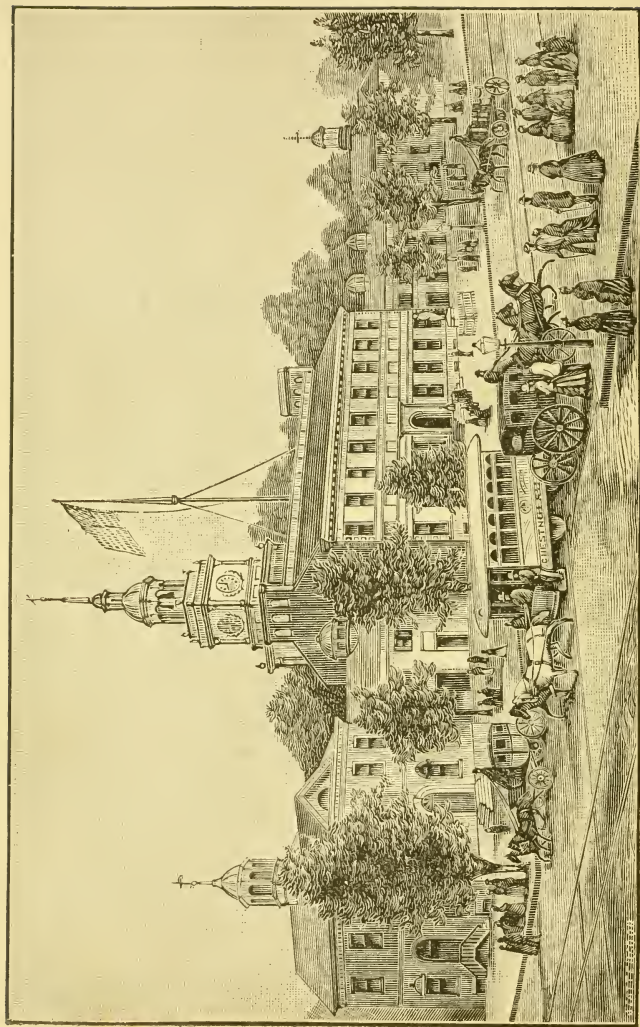
PHILADELPHIA

By DAVID SCATTERGOOD

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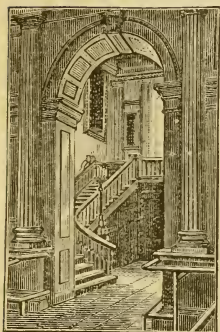
THE STATE HOUSE, 1890.

THE STATE HOUSE

AT

PHILADELPHIA.

INTRODUCTION.



IT is an original principle of our nature which leads us to look with deep interest upon any place that has been signalized by an important event. Thoughts obtrude upon the reflective mind, and peculiar emotions swell the heart of the patriot as he contemplates fields whereon heroes struggled and victories have been achieved. It was this feeling that led Cicero, when he visited Athens, to exclaim: "Shall I ascribe it to a law of our nature, or to a delusive habit of mind, that when we look upon the scenes which illustrious men of old frequented our feelings are more deeply excited than even by hearing the record of their deeds, or perusing the works of their genius? Such are the emotions I now experience, when I think that here Plato was accustomed to discourse; these gardens around me not only recall the idea of that sage to my memory, but places as it were his very form before my eyes."

Dr. Johnson expressed similar feelings upon his visit to Iona, in the Hebrides, in these eloquent words: "To abstract the mind from all local emotion would be impossible if it were endeavored, and foolish if it were

possible. Whatever withdraws us from the power of the senses, whatever makes the past, the distant or the future predominate over the present, advances us in the dignity of thinking beings. Far from me and from my friends be such frigid philosophy as may conduct us, indifferent and unmoved, over any ground which has been dignified by wisdom, bravery or virtue. That man is little to be envied whose patriotism would not gain force on the plains of Marathon, or whose piety would not grow warmer amid the ruins of Iona." And in like manner who is there that has ever felt one genuine impulse in the cause of liberty, that will not find his love of country increased by a visit to the State House at Philadelphia, or who, without finding the great and noble principle of self-denying patriotism strengthened, can tread the floors of Independence Hall, and there gaze upon the very walls made so sacred by the secret sorrows and trials of our Revolutionary heroes?

The extraordinary intelligence and virtue displayed by this assembly of patriots was recognized by sagacious and dispassionate observers throughout the world. Mirabeau spoke of it as a "company of demi-gods;" and William Pitt, Prime Minister of England, exclaimed, "I must declare that in all my reading and observation, for solidity of reasoning, force of sagacity and wisdom of conclusion, under such a complication of difficult circumstances, no body of men could stand before the National Congress of Philadelphia."

Our own great statesman, Daniel Webster, felt the power of these local associations when he exclaimed: "We shall not stand unmoved on the shore of Plymouth while the sea continues to wash it, nor will our brethren,

in another and ancient Colony forget the place of its first establishment till their river shall cease to flow by it. No vigor of youth, no maturity of manhood, will



REAR OF STATE HOUSE—FRONTING ON INDEPENDENCE SQUARE.

lead the nation to forget the spots where its infancy was cradled and defended.”

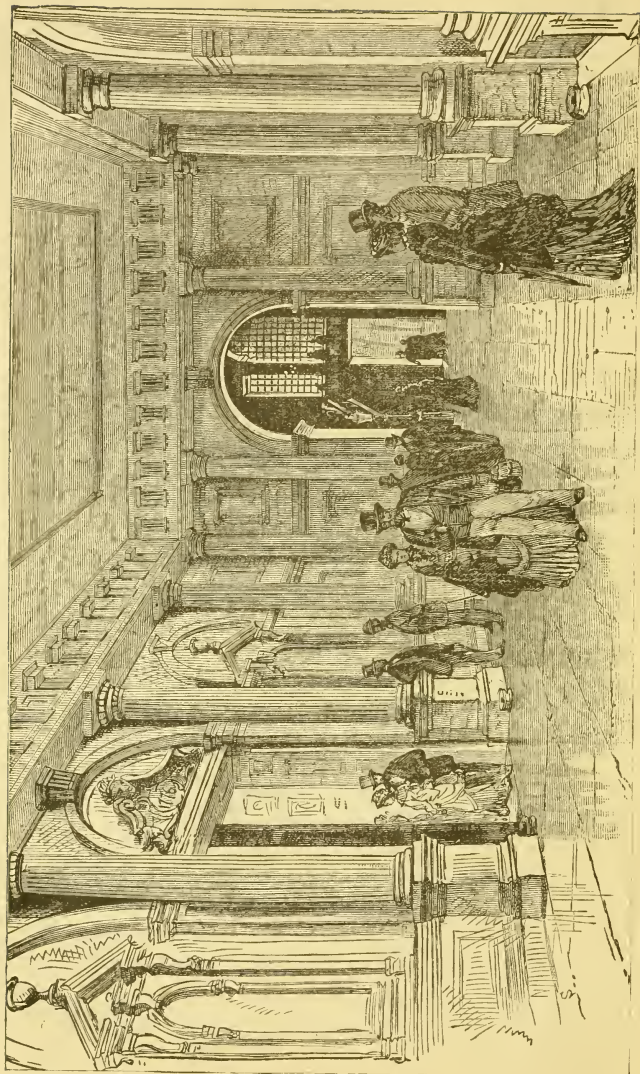
But if such localities excite our admiration and inspire our patriotism—if our feelings are moved at the

remembrance of deeds performed on the soil where the battles of freedom have been fought—if a spirit of reverence swells the heart on visiting the altars of liberty, and the places wherein our forefathers struggled—what will be our emotions when we stand within the consecrated walls of Independence Hall? A spot sanctified by events of a holy and extraordinary character; the forum of exalted debate, the arena of the noblest thought—the birth-place of American nationality? For here are still preserved relics of those brave spirits who dared to combat the greatest power of despotic Europe. Here was promulgated the charter which incorporated the colonies into a nation of freemen, and declared a separation from the mother country. “If battle-fields are interesting in their associations, what shall we say of this? What history, what picture can ever tell the half of what is suggested to every intelligent and susceptible mind on entering this venerable edifice?” Who is not immediately carried back to that day, thenceforth memorable forever, when an awful stillness pervaded the Assembly for a few moments previous to voting that “*these United Colonies are, and ought of right to be, free and independent States?*” What devotion then filled this consecrated place, and rose to heaven in silent prayer for firmness, unanimity and deathless resolve. One almost hears Hancock suggesting to Franklin, “We must all hang together now.” “Yes,” re-echoes the characteristic response of that plain old Nestor of patriots, “we must indeed all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all *hang separately.*” And then, too, we can almost see John Hancock when he appended his signature to that memorable document which

gave freedom to the American colonies, and hope to a world in tyrannical chains, rise from his seat, and in a tone of manly boldness, looking at his bold signature at the head of the Declaration of Independence, exclaim—"There, John Bull can read my name without spectacles, and may double his reward of five hundred pounds for my head. *That is my defiance.*"

A writer who appreciated this principle of our nature, the power of local association, has feelingly said: "The heroes, indeed, are departed, but here before us is still open their scene of action. Death has claimed them, but war and wasting elements have spared the theatre of their stupendous struggles. We can go and meditate there, gazing at the places where they sat, the floor on which they stood, the windows through which the bright sun looked in smilingly upon their transactions, and may touch the walls which seem yet to vibrate to the thunders of their eloquence."

The genius of Liberty, and the spirit of these noble men who braved the storms of monarchical usurpation, preside with awful imperiousness on the altars of this consecrated structure—invisible guardians watch over it to protect the sacred relics from desecration. Awe-inspiring as are the historical incidents connected with it, and impressive as are the reminiscences which are called into lively existence on reading the proceedings of that Convention which promulgated the declaration of human rights, thrice grand and beautiful is the mausoleum left to remind us of their labors. Ages may come and depart—nations may rise and fall—empires may spring into existence and decay—time may deface these sacred mementoes; but their associations will remain to



CORRIDOR OF THE STATE HOUSE.

inspire patriotic hearts, so long as thoughts of freedom burn, or the confederated institutions of the land of WASHINGTON are preserved to ameliorate the conditions of humanity.

THE BUILDING OF THE STATE HOUSE.

The State House, when originally built, was so entirely beyond the heart of the town as to seem like a citadel without the walls. There were no pavements on the streets around it, and the children jealously watched its rise from the fields where they had been wont to go huckleberrying.

"There is no more sturdy style in the world than that of a solid red brick mansion of the Georgian era," as an old English writer refreshingly remarks. The architecture of this age is convenient, snug and satisfying; while its dumpy ornaments of balustrades and urns, its string courses, tablets, corner dressings and lintels with wedge-shaped keystone have an expression all their own, and the red of its brick acquires, with age, a becoming gloom that only needs letting alone to be perfect. The steeple was erected at a later date than the main building, and it shows the more decorative side of the Queen Anne style in its wooden urns that hold nothing, its Ionic pilasters and its wreath around the clock face; the halls inside are ornamented like some of Hogarth's interiors, with mouldings, panelings, and grotesque faces above the doorways. Altogether the hall is a richly satisfactory specimen of the palace architecture at the close of Queen Anne's reign. It stands much as it stood in the Revolution, and looks equally sturdy and uncompromising in the leafy shadows of summer or hooded with the snows of winter.

This venerable edifice has always been known as the "State House." From that memorable period—when the representatives of the nation resolved to be free—the room on the east side of the main entrance has been designated by the appellation of INDEPENDENCE HALL. For wise and patriotic reasons it has not been altered. The State House, originally constructed for legal business, the dispensation of Colonial statutes for Pennsylvania and the transaction of various other matters, was commenced in the year 1729, and completed in 1734. The legislative body first occupied the State House in October, 1735. In January following, the west room was ordered to "be wainscoted at a convenient height on three sides, and that the end be neatly wainscoted and finished the whole height for the use of the Assembly." Its dimensions and architectural plan—the design being furnished by an amateur architect, named John Kearsley, Sr.—were regarded by many as too large and expensive; and the erection of the building was therefore quite strenuously opposed. Had the men who first conceived the noble enterprise of building it foreseen the exalted character which their contemplated edifice would assume in future, there would not probably have been a single dissenting voice in the liberal plan projected by its founders. It is a singular historical fact, that most of those who opposed the plan of the edifice in the commencement, and who were still living at the time, says a late writer on the subject, were opposed to the adoption of the "Declaration of Independence," which occurred within its very walls a quarter of a century afterward. According to the bills and papers kept by Andrew Hamilton, one of the three

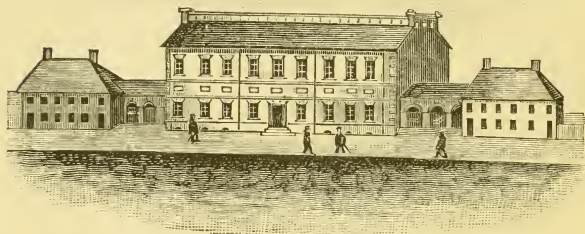
Commissioners who had the superintendence of the financial matters connected with its construction, it appears that the edifice cost originally \$16,250. The two wings which now form an important addenda to the building, however, were not erected until the years 1739 and 1740, and increased the total amount of the cost to \$28,000. Watson, the antiquarian, in his *Annals*, says:

“Edmund Woolley did the carpenter work, John Harrison the joiner work, Thomas Boude was the brick mason, William Holland did the marble work, Thomas Ker, plaster, Benjamin Fairman and James Stropes made the bricks. The glass and lead cost £170, and the glazing in leaden frames was done by Thomas Godfrey, the celebrated inventor of the quadrant. The lots on the southwest corner of Chestnut and Fifth streets and the southeast corner of Chestnut and Sixth streets, were appropriated for two public buildings at about this time, 1740, one for the use of the county, and one for the city of Philadelphia, for courts and other public purposes.”

Superintendent Hamilton died in 1741 before the State House was finished. The building of it was under his charge. He must have left his papers in an excellent condition, as in two weeks after his death his executors exhibited to the Assembly his accounts as superintendent of the building. His statement was correct and satisfactory.

A plan for finishing the Court room, the west room, first story and the piazzas between the offices and the Court room, was laid before the House and approved in 1743. It is probable that the building was not completely finished until 1744, as toward the close of that year Edmund Woolley's bill was presented to the House.

It was then without tower or steeple. It has been somewhat of a puzzle how ascent was made to the upper story. It might have been by galleries accessible from the piazzas, the steps of which led to the office buildings east and west, or it might have been by stairways running right in from the main hall or entrance. The front of the building then presented much the same appearance that it does now, except the doorway, which formerly was perfectly plain and in the same style with



THE STATE HOUSE, 1750.

the windows, has been replaced by the present doorway, which was substituted after the beginning of the present century, by certain officers who made some alterations.

In 1749 measures were taken to erect the tower on the south side of the main hall. The superintendents were ordered to proceed as soon as they conveniently might, and the tower was to contain "the staircase and a suitable place therein for hanging a bell."

The dimensions of the tower of the State House were thirty-four by thirty-two feet. The stairways to the upper stories found spacious accommodations there.

The trustees for the building were not instructed further than to erect a tower, but they took the responsibility of adding to it a steeple. The whole is 160 feet to top of the spire.

The steeple was raised Nov. 4, 1751, when there was a great feast, to which, from the considerable quantity of provisions, punch, and beer consumed, there must have been a large accession of participants beyond the carpenters and bricklayers, as a well preserved bill of items shows, the bread, meat, beer, potatoes, etc., show a total of £14 12s. 8d.

As early as 1774 the steeple was found to be decaying, and the superintendents were instructed to take it down, and to have the brick work of the tower covered in order to save it from damage by the weather ; but all this was not effected until 1781, when a low hip roof was made to cover the tower, and carried in its centre a slim pointed spire. The bell was lowered into the tower, and although occasionally heard, it may be said to have been retired, as it ceased to do active duty. It was not till 1828 that any attention was given to the restoration of the steeple. In March, 1828, after considerable debate in Councils, an appropriation of \$12,000 was made for a new steeple on the tower. Mr. Strickland, as architect, made the plan for the new steeple, but designed it all of brick. This was thought not to be in harmony with the rest of the building, and too much unlike the original steeple of 1776, so that Strickland was forced to change his plan by making the two upper stories of wood, as was the original tower and steeple. The committee stipulated that it should be carried up to a proper height to place a clock and bell

in, to be called the City clock, from which the time of the whole city can be regulated. The first story above the tower was what might be called a “dumb-story,” and attracted no attention by any inward or outward



CLOCK ROOM IN THE STEEPLE.

ornament. The next story was the clock room, and above that was the turret, in which hung the bell, the open arches of which were set upon a base sufficiently high to give access to a small gallery on all sides. A sight of the city from this gallery of the State House steeple was one of the town wonders for nearly half a

century after the steeple was finished, not only to citizens but to strangers. The latter, after they had seen the Fairmount Water Works, visited Girard College, climbed the State House steeple, inspected the method of coinage in the Mint, might be allowed to go home and boast that they had thoroughly seen Philadelphia. Strickland's plan, thus modified by wood instead of brick is so nearly a reproduction of the old steeple, that it is substantially declared to be a renewal of the original design.

THE BELLS AND CLOCKS OF THE STATE HOUSE.

At the sessions of 1750-51, the House passed a resolution directing that the superintendents provide a bell of such weight and dimensions as they shall think suitable." The Committee a few months afterwards prepared the following letter, which resulted in the casting of what was known afterwards as "the Liberty Bell:"

To Robert Charles, of London, Nov. 1, 1751.

"RESPECTED FRIEND:—The Assembly having ordered us (the Superintendents of the State House) to procure a bell from England, to be purchased for their use, we take the liberty to apply ourselves to thee to get us a good bell of about 2000 pounds weight, the cost of which we may presume may amount to about one hundred pounds sterling, or perhaps with the charges, etc., more.

"We hope and rely upon thy care and assistance in this affair, that thou wilt procure and forward it by the first opportunity, as our workmen inform us it will be less trouble to hang the bell before their scaffolds are struck from the building, where we intend to place it, which will not be done until the end of next summer, or the beginning of fall. Let the bell be cast by the best workmen, and examine carefully, before it is shipped, with the following words well shaped, in large letters around it, viz. :

"By order of the Assembly of Pennsy., for the State House in the City of Phila., 1752."

And underneath,

"Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."—Leviticus xxv: 10.*

"As we have experienced thy readiness to serve this province on all occasions, we desire it may be our excuse for this additional trouble from thy assured friends :

"ISAAC NORRIS.

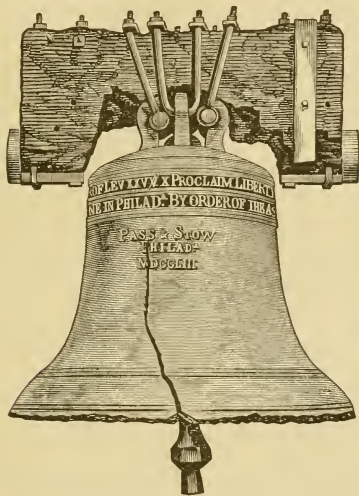
"THOMAS LEECH.

"EDWARD WARREN."

This bell, ordered by the Assembly, was brought from London to Philadelphia, in the ship "Matilda," and landed about the end of August, 1752. It was expected to be of the best quality, but when hung, and being tried for the sound, "it was cracked by a stroke of the clapper without any other violence." Much disappointed, the superintendent determined to ship the bell back to England to be re-cast. But Captain Budden, of the ship that brought it, had a large cargo, and had no room for the bell. In this emergency Pass & Stow, founders, of Philadelphia, undertook to re-cast the bell from the old material. The mould was opened March 10, 1753, and one of the trustees writing to Europe, said: "The mould was finished in a very masterly manner, and the letters, I am told, are better than the old ones. When we broke up the old bell our judges here generally agreed that it was too high and brittle, and cast several little bells out of it to try the sound and strength, and fixed upon a mixture of an

* This motto, taken from the Bible, referred to the year of Jubilee in the Jewish Commonwealth, celebrated every fiftieth year, when all property was to revert back to its original owners, and all persons held in slavery were to be freed. The motto for the bell was selected by Isaac Norris, Chairman of the Assembly. In 1778, when the American forces were about to leave Philadelphia, this bell was taken down by the Commissary and taken away to prevent its falling into the hands of the British, who were then about to occupy the city. It was brought back and hung in its former frame in 1782, but not in the steeple, that having shown signs of decay. It now rang its prophetic tones for the first time over a land of freedom. "For *fifty years* (as nearly as can be ascertained), it celebrated every National Anniversary, and then—*it cracked*. It had performed its mission, and was mute forever."

ounce and a half of copper to one pound of the old bell, and in this proportion we now have it." But it turned out that the sound was not entirely satisfactory. It was thought that there was too much copper in it, and Pass and Stow made another trial. The third bell was considered satisfactory, but Isaac Norris did not like it, as



THE OLD LIBERTY BELL.

he confessed in a letter some months afterward, and even then made some mention of a determination to have another bell cast in England.

The following notice shows that the third bell was put in place :

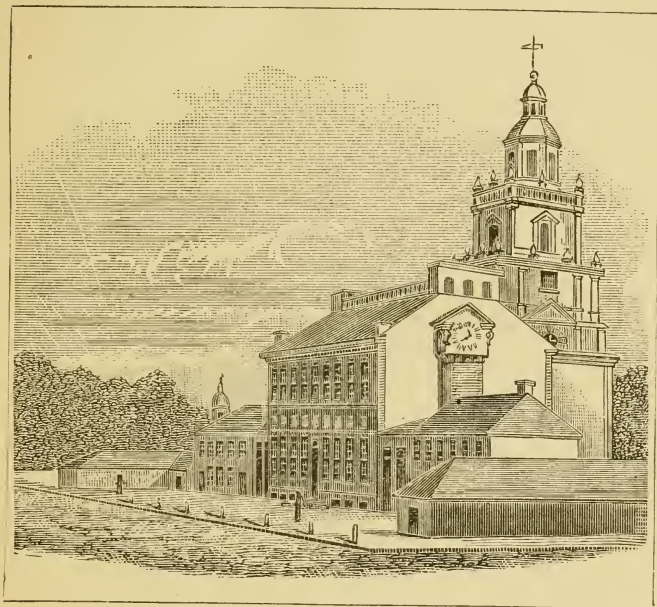
June 7, 1753. Last week was raised and fixed in the State-House steeple the new great bell cast here by Pass and Stow, weighing 2,080 pounds, with this motto: "Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Levit. xxv 10,"

The original bell cost £198. Pass and Stow, for recasting it, received, in September, 1753, £60 13s. 5*d*. They had the benefit of the old material, and added but little. On the 8th of July, 1776, it is probable this bell was rung, as the public reading of the Declaration which took place in the State-House yard on that day, and there were great rejoicings. John Adams, in writing to Samuel Chase, on July 9, said: "The bells rang all day, and almost all night."

After the original steeple and bell had been decided upon a clock was ordered by resolution in March, 1752. It was intended it should "strike on the bell in the tower, and that there should be a suitable dial plate to show the hours and the minutes." The dials of this clock were fixed in round windows, in the east and west gables of the State House building. The round windows still exist there. The clock movements were immediately under the roof, near the centre. In deference to the custom of the time, when tall clocks were found in the best houses, the dials were cased in a stone imitation of an eight-day clock.

On September, 1777, by order of the Executive Council, the State House bell and the bells of Christ Church, and St. Peter's, were ordered to be taken down and removed to a place of safety. This action was taken, it is said, because at that time it was recognized as one of the rights of the captors of a town to seize upon the Church bells as being "spoils of war" and serviceable for the casting of cannon. These bells, eleven in all, were removed to Allentown, Pa., by the way of Bethlehem, in the streets of which, the wagon bearing the State House bell, broke down and had

to be unloaded. After the evacuation of the city by the British Army they were brought back, and the State House bell was placed in its old position in the latter part of the year 1778.



STATE HOUSE IN 1778, FROM A PRINT PUBLISHED AT THAT DATE.

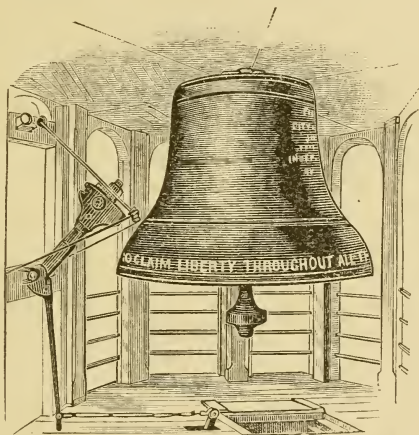
After the alterations made in 1828, a new bell being put in the steeple, the "Liberty Bell" remained in an upper story of the tower upon the heavy frame work which sustained it. It became a venerated object, and it was tacitly determined that it should only be rung on special occasions of rejoicing, or to commemorate some event of public importance. It was tolled in

1828 upon the reception of the news of the emancipation of the Catholics by act of the British Parliament. Its sharp tones were heard Feb. 22, 1832, when the centennial birthday of Washington was celebrated. It might have been used on other occasions, but an end was put to its usefulness early in the morning of July 8, 1835. While being tolled in memory of Chief Justice Marshall, who had died in the city two days before, and whose remains were then being conveyed to the wharf to be sent to Virginia, a large crack was developed in the bell, starting from the rim and inclining in a right-hand direction toward the crown. This break was at first only eight or ten inches in length, but when the bell was rung on Feb. 22, 1843, it was so much increased that never again could the sound of the famous old instrument be heard at a distance of more than a few feet. Thenceforth it became a silent memento of the historic past.

John Wiltbank was awarded the contract for the new bell of 1828, the weight to be forty-two hundred pounds. The calculations for the casting were made as scientifically as possible, and were very close; the bell exceeding the expected weight only seventy-five pounds. The contract was at the rate of 45 cents per pound, and the weight after it was cast was 4,275 pounds, costing nearly \$2000. The dimensions of the bell were: height, 5 ft. 9 in.; diameter at bottom, 5 ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.; thickest part, $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.; thinnest part, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. There was a clapper to the bell which was not used. For sounding the hour it was struck by a hammer on the outside, by the action of machinery. For the purpose of alarm in time of fire, there was another hammer on the opposite side of the bell. A

rope at the end of the hammer led to the story surrounded by the open gallery, and here the janitor, who with his family, lived in the tower, struck the bell for fire-alarm.

Mr. Wiltbank's first casting was unsatisfactory in tone; it was broken up and re-cast in different proportions. That bell was cracked almost as soon as put in use. A third bell was cast, the fine, deep tones of which were perfectly familiar to every citizen for over a half a century.



THE "SEYBERT" BELL.

In 1876, Henry Seybert, a citizen of Philadelphia, anxious to do honor to the Centennial year, offered to present to the city a new bell and clock for the State House steeple, much more grand in its proportions. The new bell weighed 13,000 pounds, and when placed in the steeple it was first rung at 12 o'clock midnight of July 3, to usher in the Centennial year; but the tone was

so low that it could not be heard at a comparatively short distance, and was altogether unsatisfactory. A firm in Troy, N. Y., were the bell-founders. It was sent back to them to be re-cast. Like its predecessors in the State House, it required three trials to produce a perfect bell; the second casting was so unsatisfactory that it was broken up, and the third bell was cast and brought to the city and put in place. It has never been as resonant as the bell of 1828, but after the third trial the bell of 1876 was accepted, and has since done duty in the tower.* Its tone is believed by many to be improving with time.

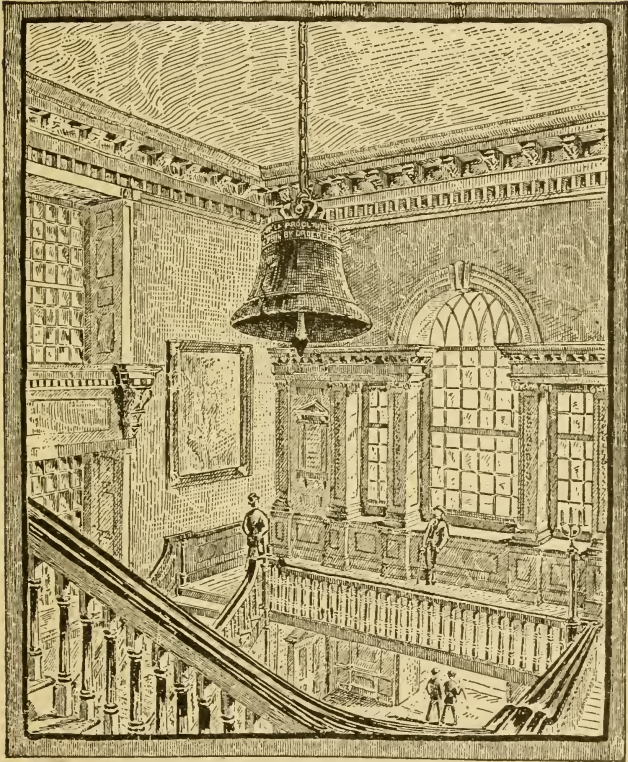
There seemed to be a fatality about the State House bells. It took three castings in 1752-53 to get a perfect bell, and it required just as many in 1828.

The "Liberty Bell" was taken from its frame in 1854 and for many years stood on a pedestal in Independence Hall fitted up in a style commensurate with the impressive character and associations connected with it. This bell was then placed upon a pedestal having *thirteensides*, representing the number of States that confederated for the accomplishment of freedom, with the American Flag gracefully folded above and around it. A stuffed eagle was placed upon the bell, holding in its beak the *E Pluribus Unum* of the land.

When the "Seybert bell" was put in the steeple in 1876 the old "Liberty bell" was hung in the tower by a chain of thirteen links, as shown in our illustration. In January, 1885, this old bell was taken down and loaned to the City of New Orleans, to add to the attractions of the World's Fair that was then being held in that city. The bell was attended by an escort of three city policemen,

* Scharf and Westcott's History of Philadelphia.

two of whom never left it day or night. On June 17, it was returned to Philadelphia, and again hung in its place, where it is to-day.



THE "LIBERTY BELL" IN THE TOWER.

The construction of the new steeple, in 1828, led to the acquisition of a new clock, which was made at a

cost of \$2,000. This proved to be an excellent clock, and for many years was the standard for city time. Four clock faces, about nine feet in diameter, were fitted in the steeple, and these were made of ground glass, which was then considered a great novelty. What was yet more surprising was the fact, demonstrated as soon as gas began to be burned, that by strong-lights in the clock-room the dial plates could be illuminated at night, and seen from a great distance. Nothing of the kind could be possible with the old clock, and the new arrangement was so unusual that travelers frequently spoke of it with admiration.

In 1876, when Henry Seybert offered to supply the city with a new bell, he also expressed the desire to furnish a better clock than that which was in use. There was not much complaint about the old clock, but the offer being generous, it could not very well be separated by *accepting* the bell and *refusing* the clock. Mr. Seybert's proposition was therefore accepted, and a new clock was constructed by the Seth Thomas Clock Company, of Connecticut.

The bell and clock of 1828 were now removed to Germantown, where they do duty in the Town Hall of that ancient borough.

THE FORMER USES OF THE STATE HOUSE.

Grave and deliberate as were the general purposes during the early period of the Revolution, to which the "State House" was appropriated in the Colonial days of Pennsylvania, it was on several occasions used as a hall of banqueting. In the long gallery, upstairs, the feasting tables were spread, around which hilarity and

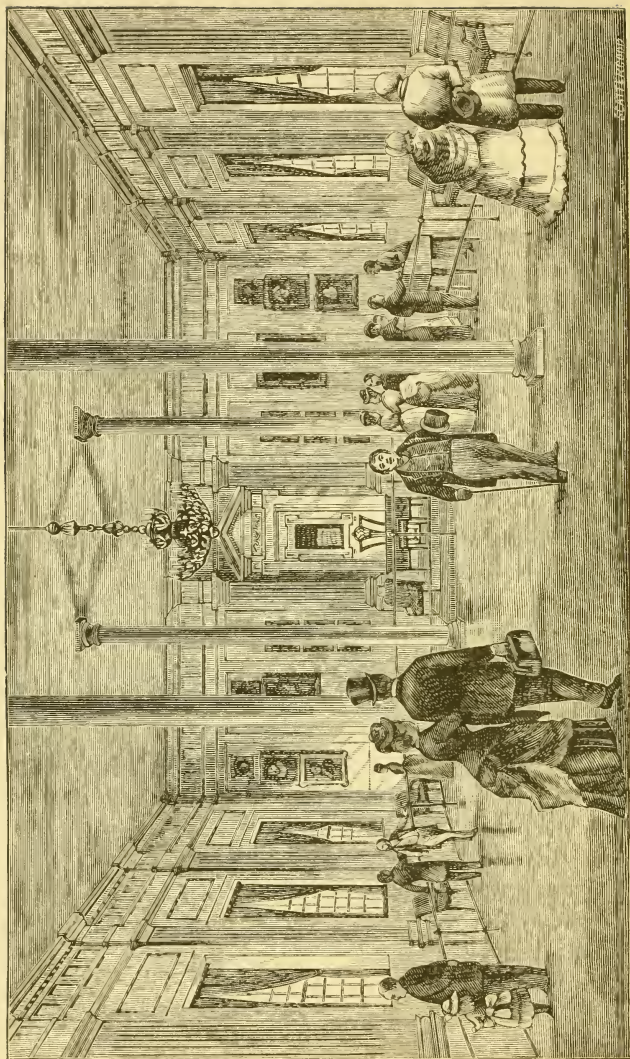
mirthfulness prevailed, while the tables themselves were loaded with every desirable luxury. Soon after the edifice was completed, in 1736, William Allen, Esq., then Mayor of Philadelphia, made a feast at his own expense. This entertainment, which was of a sumptuous and costly character, was spread in the State House, and the Mayor extended his invitations to all distinguished strangers in the city. The number of invited guests exceeded any at the feasts given in the city on previous occasions, while those who partook of his hospitality expressed their unanimous consent that, "for excellency of fare, it was a most elegant entertainment." On the arrival of their new Colonial governor, Denny, in 1756, while the Assembly was in session, that body gave him a reception dinner, and this feast was likewise spread at the State House, at which the "civil and military officers and the clergy of the city" were present. This entertainment occurred in August, and was an important event during the session of the Assembly. It had a tendency to harmonize various antagonistical personal feelings, which were looked upon as boding no particular good to the new administration. Again, when Lord Loudon, commander-in-chief of the King's forces in the several Colonies, visited the city in the year 1757, the corporation received him at the State House by a grand banquet. General Forbes, who was then commander in Philadelphia and of the southern settlements, was also present on that occasion. Various guests were invited, among whom were officers of rank, gentlemen, strangers, clergy, and private citizens, who partook of these municipal hospitalities. It was remarked by some uninvited guests at the time,

that the expenditure for this entertainment was greater than had ever before been made by the authorities for public receptions, which indicated a very early hospitality to such feasts, especially when given at the expense of the public treasury.

When, in 1774, the first Congress met in Philadelphia, a sumptuous collation was prepared by the gentlemen of the city, for the entertainment of its representatives, the "State House" was selected as the building in which the festive ceremonies should be performed. The members and invited guests congregated first at the "City Tavern" (S. W. Cor. Front and Market Sts.) and thence marched in an imposing procession to the State House, in the dining hall in which the repast was spread. About 500 persons partook of the dinner, and when the toasts were given they were rendered patriotic by the "firing of cannon and martial music." These festive occasions exerted salutary influences upon public sentiment, and had a tendency to develop, and in no small degree bind together the political feelings which actuated the people.

It seems proper that mention should be made here of the venerated building adjoining the State House, on the corner of Sixth and Chestnut Streets. On the 6th of April, 1789, General Washington was selected the first President of the United States, and the same month he left Mount Vernon for his inauguration in New York, passing through Philadelphia. A year later, 1790, Congress decided to return to Philadelphia, the birth place of freedom, and for the next ten years it served as the Capital city of the Nation. The Supreme Court sat in the Hall, on the corner of Fifth and Chestnut Streets, the first building shown in our frontispiece, and Congress was accommodated in a building that had been erected for use as a County Court House on the corner of Sixth and Chestnut, the other end of the row of which the State House is the centre. In this building known then as "Congress Hall" Washington and Adams were inaugurated for the second term of their Presidency and Vice-Presidency in 1793, and Jefferson in 1797.

We have remarked that the State "House" was used for various purposes. In 1802 the Legislature of Pennsylvania granted to Charles Wilson Peale, the use of the upper rooms in which the public banquets were formerly given, for the exhibition of curiosities which he had collected and arranged under the title of the "*Philadelphia Museum*." This institution was commenced in the year 1784, with the simple donation of a "paddle-fish" from the Ohio river. From that time until his decease, Mr. Peale was engaged in conveying instruction and amusement to the citizens of Philadelphia, and all who wished to visit his museum. Mr. Peale was very particular as to the class of his visitors. He aimed to preserve it as "a resort for the virtuous and refined of society." The museum contained a large collection of fossil reliquiæ of our country and Europe, at the head of which was the mammoth, the bones of whose skeleton was discovered in a morass, in Ulster county, New York, by persons digging for marl. Cabinets of fish, reptiles, comparative anatomy, and a numerous collection of miscellaneous articles of works of art, implements, dresses, arms, antiquities, and so forth, from various parts of the globe. In the quadruped room were stuffed specimens of some two hundred animals, large and small. In the marine room were bodies of large fish, alligators, serpents and reptiles. In the yard were placed in cages a few living animals which could stand existence in the open air in summer and winter. The museum also contained many valuable paintings of officers and diplomatic characters who figured during the Revolution, which were painted by Mr. Peale during that stormy period.



"INDEPENDENCE HALL"—EAST ROOM.

In 1824, La Fayette, on his second visit to the United States, was tendered a public reception at the State House. On this occasion the condition of the building and the changes that had taken place in its interior appearance attracted public attention. Since the year 1800 some persons in temporary authority had taken advantage of their opportunity to "modernize" the fine East Room, known as "Independence Hall," in which the Constitutional Convention had held its sittings, and where the Declaration had been signed. The ancient panelings, the carvings, the old furniture, even the beautiful chandelier, a relic of Colonial days, were torn down, cast aside as useless lumber, and replaced by something they thought to be "prettier." It was resolved that this room, famous as the scene of so many important historical events, should be restored to its original condition; and in 1833 a sum of money was voted for this purpose.* A large part of the old wood work was found intact in the lumber-rooms of the building; what was lacking was replaced by new carvings made after the pattern of the old; and in all important particulars the room now bears the aspect which it bore, when, with John Adams as President of the Senate, the debates of the first United Congress were conducted with "the most delightful silence, the most beautiful order, gravity, and personal dignity of

* It was in this room in June, 1787, when the provisions of the Constitution were being debated, that Benjamin Franklin handed up his celebrated motion that harmonized the whole question between the advocates of a strong Central government, or a strong State power. He moved "that in the Senate every State should have equal representation, but in the House, representation should be according to population." It is reported that Washington said at the time, that this compromise plan saved the Constitution,

manner," and "three gentle taps" from the silver pencil-case of the President were enough to compose the most excited discussions and "restore everything to repose and the most respectful attention."

This room has also occasionally been used as an exhibition-room. The use of the room for that purpose, after Peale's Museum had left it, was to exhibit Trumbull's picture of "Washington Resigning to Congress his Commission;" this was in 1824. Subsequently other prominent paintings were exhibited there, generally of a national subject, but Councils concluded that making a show-room of the Independence chamber was not in harmony with the character of the building and its associations.

On the 8th of March, 1847, the remains of John Quincy Adams lay in state in Independence Hall, while being conveyed from Washington, where he died, to his late home in Quincy, Mass. The building was heavily draped in black. The body arrived on the evening of the 7th, escorted by a torchlight procession, and after remaining in the hall all night, was on the next day taken on its way.

After the assassination of President Lincoln, in April, 1865, his body passed through Philadelphia, and on the 22d of April it was borne to the State House, and lay in the hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed until the 24th. It was visited in the two days and nights by over 75,000 people, and the crowds continued packed for squares, when the body was taken away on the journey to Springfield. As on similar former occasions the State House was completely draped in mourning.

In May, 1877, ex-President Grant, previous to starting on his famous trip around the world, held a reception in Independence Hall by the invitation of Councils. He sailed from Philadelphia and was accompanied from the hall to the steamship Indiana by many prominent citizens.

The State House building has been used for United States Courts and District Courts. Indeed, almost all kinds of legal tribunals have at different times been accommodated within its sacred walls. In 1854, when the city proper was consolidated with all the outlying towns and districts, including indeed, what was the whole county of Philadelphia, the municipal government determined upon using the State House itself, and gave notice to the United States Courts to remove from the second story building. The east chamber over Independence Hall was then fitted up for the Select Council and the west one for the Common Council, with a small committee room adjoining.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In 1736 all of the ground comprised in the square south of the State House was bought, the buildings then on it were torn down and the conditions were that the "*said ground should be enclosed and remain a public green and walk forever.*" An appropriation of £5000 was made for the purchase. After the seat of the State government was removed to Harrisburg in 1813, the title to the property remained in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania ; a bill was soon introduced into the Assembly to sell the property or else open it up with streets. The people of Philadelphia were indignant at this apparent degradation of the State House square, and sent a

vigorous protest to the State Legislature. On March, 1816, the Assembly, in consideration of the feeling of the citizens of Philadelphia in the matter, made a proviso that if the city within ten days before the 1st of June (the day named for the sale), make a contract with the Governor of the State for the purchase of the State House, clock and ground for \$70,000 and pay one-third within five days thereafter, the sale should not take place, but that the lot and State House proper shall be vested in the City of Philadelphia. Councils raised the funds by loan. And thus this valuable property became the property of the city.

The State House pavement was, in former days, supplied with two pumps, each at about the spot where now stands the watering fountains. As these pumps furnished pure spring water they were much used, particularly on hot days. Day and night the handles were going, which in time helped to keep the waters pure and cold. Placards were placed on the pumps by the Humane Society, warning persons not to indulge too freely in the use of the water while heated.

The fire fiend has dealt very leniently with the State House; while there have been many and serious fires in the vicinity, both at the corners of Fifth and Chestnut and Sixth and Chestnut streets, they have not touched the old sacred edifice. In 1824, three desperadoes set the Mayor's office on fire, which was located in close proximity, but the fire was discovered in time to prevent a serious conflagration. Their intention, it was afterward learned, was to murder Mayor Wharton, in whose court they had previously been convicted of crime. For this charge of attempted murder of the Mayor they

were arrested, and the prosecuting attorney also brought a charge against them of conspiring to burn the State House and the residence of Mr. Peale, the proprietor of the museum. The three men were convicted on all of the counts and were sentenced to twelve years imprisonment each. This is the only attempt that was ever made to harm the venerated edifice.

The State House pavement was now without shade and was a very uncomfortable place in midday in summer. An effort was made in 1821 to plant shade trees along the State House front from Fifth to Sixth street. *Poulson's Advertiser* said in reference to this: "It will be a salubrious exchange for the arid bricks that have been boiling our brains there these fifty years." The *Ailanthus* tree was chosen as being of quick growth and thick foliage, and the State House pavement soon became as "umbrageous as a forest." But soon the trees became badly attacked by worms and were ordered to be cut down. But the change to the open sun was more than the people could stand; the place was soon supplied by silver maples. These grew finely, and the State House front soon again was restored to its original green.

The present flag-mast upon the State House was erected in February, 1861, pending the excitement that preceded the firing upon Fort Sumter at the beginning of the civil war. Abraham Lincoln, who had been elected President of the United States in the fall of 1860, was on his way, in February, '61, to Washington, and was invited by a deputation of citizens to visit Philadelphia and to hoist the new flag with the thirty-four stars for the first time. This was hoisted on the 22d. of February. Mr. Lincoln, after visiting Independence

Hall and inspecting the relics, at 8 o'clock in the morning, hoisted the flag on the new pole, standing upon a platform in front of the State House, amid the booming of cannon, the music of a brass band, singing of patriotic songs, and cheers of the populace.



THE WASHINGTON STATUE.

In 1860, a movement was begun by the children of the public schools of Philadelphia to erect a monument

to Washington, and the most appropriate place seemed to be in the neighborhood of the State House. When the fund was nearly raised, Councils were applied to and gave a space in the pavement directly opposite the Chestnut street entrance. Here on the 5th of July, 1869, the statue of Washington was unveiled. It was designed and made by J. A. Bailey, a sculptor of Philadelphia, and is 8 ft. 6 in. high, carved out of a single block of Italian marble, a piece of stone free from blemish or fault of any kind. Washington is represented in the citizen's dress of the period. The face is copied from the famous likeness by Stuart, while the form is dignified and graceful in its position. The base is composed of Richmond granite. The height of the base and pedestal is ten feet, making the entire height of the statue 18 ft. 6 in. It is surrounded by a neat iron railing. On the pedestal is this inscription.

ERECTED
BY THE
WASHINGTON
MONUMENT ASSOCIATION,
OF THE
FIRST SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF
PENNSYLVANIA,
JULY 4, 1869.

J. A. BAILEY, SCULPTOR,
1860.

The City Councils of Philadelphia, while they highly prize the State House and all of its associations, have always, without political bias, extended the use of it to honor any worthy and prominent citizen or cause.

THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

“The greatest national memorial in the history of the United States is Independence Hall in the old State House. This was the birthplace of the Republic. Delegates from each colony (appointed, in some cases by the existing legislative bodies, in others by Committees of Safety) had just met in Carpenters’ Hall to devise measures for uniform action in approaching their recognized sovereign by petition, in order to obtain redress for grievances. Failing in these efforts they returned to Philadelphia in the spring of 1775, with the anticipation of a prolonged session, when the hall used by “the representatives of the freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania” (hence the name “State House”), was assigned to them for their sittings. Thus it was in that very hall, June, 1775, on motion of Thomas Johnson, of Maryland, George Washington was unanimously elected commander-in-chief of the armies raised, and to be raised for the defence of America.

But above all, it was here, in the east room, now known as Independence Chamber, that on the 7th of June, 1776, John Hancock occupying the President’s chair, the memorable act was initiated that sanctifies the whole building. Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, rises in his place. He holds in his hand instructions from the convention assembled at Williamsburg, which had been brought to him but a few days before by Thomas Nelson, Jr., himself then present as a member. Mr. Lee reads a resolution, which is still extant in his own hand-writing, a reduced copy of which we herewith give.

Resolved ~~That~~ That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

* * * * *

FAC-SIMILE OF THE RESOLUTION OFFERED BY RICHARD HENRY LEE.

“Resolved—That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved—”

This resolution laid the foundation for the immortal Declaration of Independence. Many good and patriotic men opposed this resolution, among them John Adams, Samuel Adams, Gerry, McKean, Dickinson, and Robert Morris, who being restrained by their instructions, feared that the adoption of the resolution at that time would produce a divided action throughout the country. A meagre house induced a postponement until the next day, and after a reference to the Committee of the Whole, the 1st of July was fixed as the day for further consideration, but, “least any time should be lost in case the Congress agree to this resolution,” a committee was appointed to prepare A DECLARATION in consonance therewith.*

On the 1st of July, Benjamin Harrison, the chairman, reported Mr. Lee’s resolution and referred it to a

* Etting’s “Memorials of 1776.”

committee of five, Jefferson, Adams, Franklin, Sherman and Livingston. The Declaration was immediately written and presented to Congress on the 2d of July, and on the 4th of July, after anxious, earnest and able debate, paragraph by paragraph, it received the approval of all present, and was ordered to be engrossed. Many of the members not then present afterwards signed it.

It is recorded by one writer, that "on the 4th of July, when the motion to adopt the Declaration passed the majority of the Assembly, although not signed by all of the delegates, that the old bell-ringer in the belfry awaited anxiously, with trembling hope, the signing. He kept saying, "they'll *never* do it?—*they'll never do it!*" but whose eyes expanded, and whose grasp grew firmer when the voice of the blue-eyed youth reached his ears in shouts of triumph as he flew up the stairs of the tower, shouting, "RING! RING! THEY'VE SIGNED!"

No patriot can look upon this old bell without recalling the circumstances with its first proclamation to the world, that the United Colonies were "free and independent States." To some, the sound of the bell, gave the first thrill of enthusiastic resistance to despotic power—to some it was a harbinger of joy—to others it imparted strength in the hour of gloom—to others again, it was a messenger of evil, causing them to sneak away, muttering as they did so—"Well, we are in a pretty mess of trouble now!" But the same patriot, passing over the history of some years might have heard in the same vicinity, on the 23d of October, 1781, in the boding hour of night a very different proclamation:—*Past twelve o'clock and Cornwallis is taken!*" Then might be seen mothers and daughters, sisters and brothers, hastening

to the windows, in dreamy abstractions of delight, joyfully exclaiming: "*Who is taken?*" while the old time city watchman, plodded on his way, shouting continually, "Why, Cornwallis, he was taken by Washington and Lafayette, at Yorktown! Past twelve o'clock and Cornwallis taken!" The "pretty mess of trouble" which the sound of the "old State-House bell" had plunged the people into had been successfully overcome, the ship of State had safely weathered the storm, and the Colonies were free. For the remainder of that night the hours of the people were sleepless; friend congratulated friend, and the united prayers of gratefulness ascended to the God of battles. Who would not then have been on the side of liberty? Who did not feel that the cause of these struggling patriots was good? There were none to say, "We are in a pretty mess of trouble now." No, the sword of the oppressor was broken, and the nation of freemen stood a towering prodigy before the eyes of an astonished world. Said Franklin, after looking at the carved back of President Hancock's chair, "I have often wondered whether this emblem was meant to represent the rising or the setting sun. I see now plainly it is the *rising* sun."

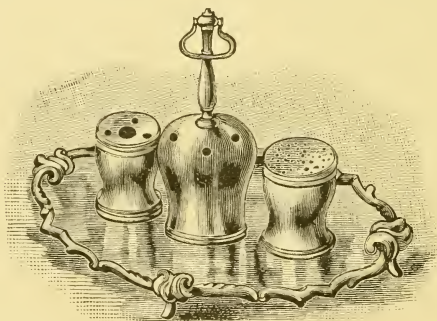
The place of reading the Declaration, the first time in public, was the old "observatory," erected by the American Philosophical Society from which to observe the transit of Venus in 1769. It was a rough staging in Independence Square.

In 1873 efforts to commemorate in this building the approaching Centennial met with the approbation of the Mayor, William S. Stokley. A Committee on "Restoration" was formed and strenuous efforts were made in the

cause by the following gentlemen: Mr. Frank M. Etting (Chairman), Messrs. Morton McMichael, John Shoemaker, W. G. Littleton, A. Wilson Henszey and J. H. Pugh.

Independence Chamber was then devoted to the Commemoration of the Signing of the Declaration. Here is the table upon which the Declaration was signed, the desk of Secretary Thompson, and the chairs of the signers, as far as they were recoverable; and the portraits of the signers—minus twenty—ten of whom we knew never sat for their portraits, namely, Braxton, Morton, Rodney, Hart, Gwinnett, Penn, Hall, Smith, Taylor and Thornton, and it is feared Francis L. Lee.

The "National Museum" is the auxiliary chamber to Independence Hall, and here may be found many interesting relics of Colonial and Revolutionary Days.



SILVER INKSTAND, USED IN SIGNING THE DECLARATION.
NOW IN THE MUSEUM.

COPY OF THE ORIGINAL DRAFT
OF THE
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

As submitted to Congress by the Committee, with the erasures and amendments it received during the debate when Congress, with closed doors for some days, debated upon it paragraph by paragraph. In these alterations one can almost see the line of thought that guided these patriots and admire their perspicuity of language in framing this immortal document.

COPY.*

THE UNANIMOUS DECLARATION OF THE THIRTEEN STATES OF
AMERICA.

When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self evident: That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with ~~inherent and inalienable~~ [*certain unalienable*] Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness; that to secure these rights Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their

* NOTE.—The parts of the original document that were finally stricken out are here shown by being "erased," and the words supplied are shown by being put in *italic* letters in brackets. After it was thus agreed to by Congress it was ordered to be engrossed on parchment in a complete form (as here corrected), which original Engrossed Copy is now in the Patent Office at Washington, and an exact copy, with the signatures, is in the National Museum in the State House. It was in this document that the term UNITED STATES OF AMERICA was first used.

just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new Government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and, accordingly, all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, begun at a distant period, and pursuing invariably the same Object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to ~~expunge~~ [alter] their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of ~~unremitting~~ [repeated] injuries and usurpations; ~~among which appears no solitary fact to contradict the uniform tenor of the rest; but all have~~ [having] in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world, ~~for the truth of which we pledge a faith yet unsullied by falsehood.~~

He has refused his assent to Laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has ~~neglected utterly~~ [utterly neglected] to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people

would relinquish the right of Representation in ~~legislation~~ [*the Legislature*]; a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly ~~and continually~~, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected, whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the meantime exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose obstructing the Law for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither; and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

~~He has suffered the administration of justice totally to cease in some of the States; [he has obstructed the administration of justice by]~~ refusing his assent to Laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made our Judges dependent on his will alone for the tenure of their offices and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices ~~by a self assumed power~~, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies ~~and Ships of War~~, without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of, and superior to, the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unac-

knowledge by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended Legislation.

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us.

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States.

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world.

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent.

For depriving us [*in many cases*] of the benefits of Trial by Jury.

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences.

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these States [*Colonies.*]

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments.

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, ~~withdrawing his governors, and~~ [*by*] declaring us out of his allegiance and Protection, and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun, with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy [*scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally*] unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained ~~others~~ [*our fellow Citizens*], taken Captive on the high Seas, to bear arms against their

Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has [*excited domestic insurrections amongst us and has*] endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions ~~of existence.~~

~~He has excited treasonable insurrections of our fellow citizens, with the allurements of forfeiture and confiscation of our property.~~

~~He has waged Civil War against human nature itself, violating its most sacred Rights of Life and Liberty in the persons of a distant people, who never offended him, captivating and carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere, or to incur miserable death in their transportation hither. This Piratical Warfare, the opprobrium of infidel powers, is the warfare of the Christian King of Great Britain. Determined to keep open a Market where Men should be bought and sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every Legislative attempt to prohibit or to restrain this Execrable Commerce. And that this assemblage might want no fact of distinguished dye, he is now exciting these very People to Rise in Arms among us, and to purchase that Liberty of which he has deprived them by murdering the people upon whom he obtruded them: thus paying off former Crimes committed against the liberties of one people with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another.~~

In every stage of these Oppressions we have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms; Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a people ~~who mean to be free~~ [*free people*]. ~~Future ages will scarcely believe that the hardiness of one man adventured, within the short compass of twelve years only, to build a foundation, so broad and undis-~~

~~guised, for Tyranny over a People fostered and fixed in principles of freedom.~~

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time, of attempts by their Legislature to extend a [*an unwarrantable*] jurisdiction over ~~these our States~~ [*us*].

We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here ; ~~no one of which could warrant so strange a pretension ; that these were effected at the expense of our own Blood and Treasure, unassisted by the wealth or strength of Great Britain ; that in constituting indeed our several forms of Government, we had adopted one common King, thereby laying a foundation for perpetual league and amity with them ; but that, to their parliament was no part of our Constitution ; nor even an idea, if history may be credited ; and we [have] appealed to their native justice and magnanimity as well as to [and we have conjured them by] the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations which were likely to [would inevitably] interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity ; and when occasions have been given them, by the regular course of their laws, of removing from their Councils the disturbers of our harmony, they have by their free election, re-established them in power. At this very time, too, they were permitting their Chief Magistrate to send over, not only soldiers of our common blood, but [Scotch and] foreign mercenaries to invade and destroy us. These facts have given the last stab to agonizing affections ; and manly spirit bids us to renounce forever these unfeeling Brethren. We must endeavour to forget our former love for them ; and [we] must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our Separation, and hold them as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War ; in Peace, Friends.~~

~~We might have been a free and great people together ; but a communication of grandeur and of freedom, it~~

~~rooms, is below their dignity. Be it so, since they will have it. The road to Happiness and to Glory is open to us, too; We will climb it apart from them, and acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our eternal separation.~~

WE, THEREFORE, the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by the authority of the good People of the States, ~~reject and renounce all allegiance and subjection to the kings of Great Britain, and others who may hereafter claim by, through, or under them; We utterly dissolve all political connexion which may heretofore have subsisted between us and the Parliament or people of Great Britain; and, finally, we do assert the Colonies to be free and independent States; [these Colonies solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be, Free and Independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved;]~~ and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this declaration [*with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence*], we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."

Adopted by Congress, July 4, 1776.



PORTRAITS AND FURNITURE IN
INDEPENDENCE HALL.

(EAST ROOM.)

HANCOCK'S CHAIR, AND TABLE UPON WHICH THE DECLARATION
WAS SIGNED.

The Presiding Officer's Chair, once occupied by John Hancock as President of the Independence Congress.

The Table on which the Declaration of Independence received the signatures of the members.

Thirteen Chairs used by Members of Congress.

The Original Chandelier used for evening sessions.

Statue of Washington, life size, in wood, carved by William Rush of Philadelphia.

Two Sevres Vases, presented by the French Government to the City of Philadelphia, July 4, 1876.

The array of portraits begins at the eastern end of hall, as named and numbered.

1. JOHN HANCOCK, President of Congress, 1776.
2. RICHARD HENRY LEE, Mover of the Resolutions for Independence.
3. BENJAMIN HARRISON, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole, to consider the question of Independence.

4. THOMAS JEFFERSON, Chairman of Committee of five to Draft the Declaration of Independence, and Chief Author of the Instrument.
5. ROGER SHERMAN, Member of the Committee to Draft, etc.
6. JOHN ADAMS, Member of the Committee to Draft, etc.
7. SAMUEL ADAMS, The Pioneer of the Revolution.
8. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, Member of the Committee of Draft, etc.
9. JOHN DICKINSON, The Great Advocate of Constitutional Rights and Member of Congress, July, 1776, from Pennsylvania.
10. ROBERT MORRIS, The Great Financier of the Revolution and Member of Congress, July, 1776, from Pennsylvania.
11. THOMAS MCKEAN, Advocate of Independence and Member of Congress, July, 1776, from Delaware.
12. SAMUEL CHASE, Advocate of Independence and Member of Congress, July, 1776, from Maryland.
13. GEORGE WYTHE, Advocate of Independence and Member of Congress, July, 1776, from Virginia.
14. JOSEPH HEWES, Member of Congress, July, 1776, from North Carolina.
15. JOSIAH BARTLETT, Member of Congress, July, 1776, from New Hampshire.
16. CHARLES THOMPSON, Secretary of Congress, 1776.
17. THOMAS HEYWARD, JR., Member of Congress, 1776, from South Carolina.
18. ELBRIDGE GERRY, Great Advocate of Independence, Member of Congress, 1776, from Massachusetts.
19. ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON, Member of the Committee to Draft, &c *

* This gentleman did not sign the Declaration.

20. WILLIAM WHIPPLE, Member of Congress, 1776, from New Hampshire.
21. ROBERT TREAT PAINE, Member of Congress, 1776, from Massachusetts.
22. STEPHEN HOPKINS, Member of Congress, 1776, from Rhode Island.
23. WILLIAM ELLERY, Member of Congress, 1776, from Rhode Island.
24. SAMUEL HUNTINGTON, Member of Congress, 1776, from Connecticut.
25. WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Member of Congress, 1776, from Connecticut.
26. OLIVER WOLCOTT, Member of Congress, 1776, from Connecticut.
27. WILLIAM FLOYD, Member of Congress, 1776, from New York.
28. PHILIP LIVINGSTON, Member of Congress, 1776, from New York.
29. FRANCIS LEWIS (frame vacant), Member of Congress, 1776, from New York.
30. LEWIS MORRIS, Member of Congress, 1776, from New York.
31. RICHARD STOCKTON, Member of Congress, 1776, from New Jersey.
32. JOHN WITHERSPOON, Member of Congress, 1776, from New Jersey.
33. FRANCIS HOPKINS, Member of Congress, 1776, from New Jersey.
34. ABRAHAM CLARK, Member of Congress, 1776, from New Jersey.
35. BENJAMIN RUSH, Member of Congress, 1776, from Pennsylvania.
36. JAMES WILSON, Member of Congress, 1776, from Pennsylvania.

- 37 GEORGE ROSS, Member of Congress, 1776, from Pennsylvania.
- 38 GEORGE CLYMER, Member of Congress, 1776, from Pennsylvania.
- 39 GEORGE READ, Member of Congress, 1776, from Delaware.
- 40 THOMAS STONE, Member of Congress, 1776, from Maryland.
- 41 WILLIAM PACA, Member of Congress, 1776, from Maryland.
- 42 CHARLES CARROLL, of Carrollton, Member of Congress, 1776, from Maryland.
- 43 THOMAS NELSON, JR., Member of Congress, 1776, from Virginia.
- 44 FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE (frame vacant), Member of Congress, 1776, from Virginia.
- 45 WILLIAM HOOPER, Member of Congress, 1776, from North Carolina.
- 46 EDWARD RUTLEDGE, Member of Congress, 1776, from South Carolina.
- 47 THOMAS LYNCH, JR., Member of Congress, 1776, from South Carolina.
- 48 ARTHUR MIDDLETON, Member of Congress, 1776, from South Carolina.
- 49 GEORGE WALTON, Member of Congress, 1776, from Georgia.
- 50 THOMAS JOHNSON, Member of Congress, 1776, from Maryland.
- 51 REV. WILLIAM WHITE, Chaplain to Congress.
- 52 MATTHEW THORNTON, of Mass., Speaker of the Provincial Congress.

Along the surbase of the Hall are arranged portraits of the Presidents of the Continental Congress, all painted by Peale, viz. :

Peyton Randolph, Henry Laurens, John Hanson, John Jay, Elias Boudinot, Arthur St. Clair, Thomas Mifflin.

53. Frame reserved for Henry Middleton.

58. Cyrus Griffin, one of the Presidents of Congress, copied from a miniature.

60. THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF. An original portrait by *James Peale*. Above the doorway.

Also portraits of the following Commanders in the Army and Navy, in the order of their commission in the United States service.

61-62 Genl. Artemas Ward, Genl. Philip Schuyler.

63-64 Genl. Israel Putnam, Genl. Richard Montgomery.

65-65½ Genl. Horatio Gates, Genl. John Sullivan.

66-67 Genl. Nathaniel Green, Genl. Wm. Alexander (Lord Stirling.)

68-69 Genl. Benjamin Lincoln, Marquis de Lafayette.

70-71 Baron de Kalb, Baron Steuben.

72-73 Genl. Wm. Smallwood, Genl. L. DeBegne Portail.

74-75 Genl. Henry Knox, Genl. Christopher Gadsden.

76-77 Genl. Lachlan McIntosh, Genl. Anthony Wayne.

78-78½ Genl. Jas. Mitchell Varnum, Peter Muhlenberg.

79-80 Genl. George Clinton, Genl. Joseph Reed.

81-82 Genl. James Wilkinson, Genl. Daniel Morgan.

83-84 Genl. Otho Holland Williams, Genl. Jos. Warren (Provincial.)

85-86 Genl. Thos. Sumter (Provincial) Col. John Edgar Howard.

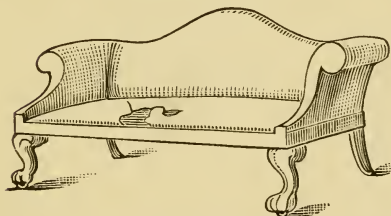
87-88 Col. Wm. A. Washington, Col. Harry Lee.

89-90 Comte de Rochambeau, Capt. John Paul Jones.

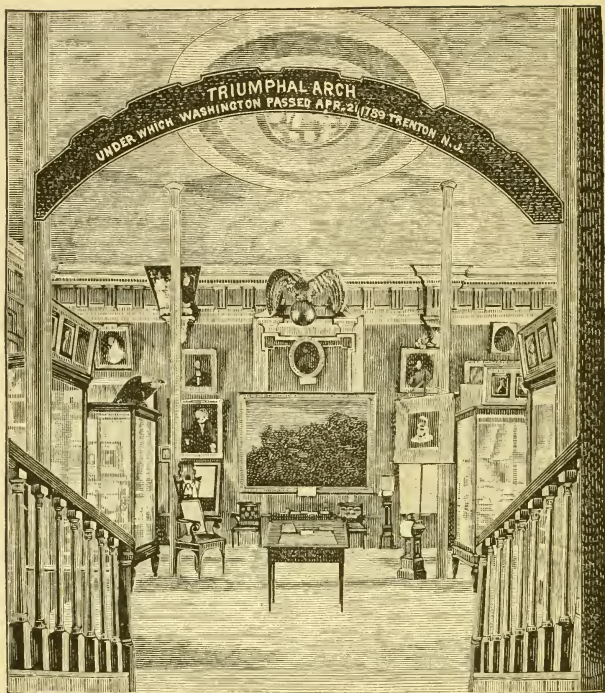
91-92 Capt. Joshua Barney, Capt. Nicholas Biddle.

Also in the southwest corner, not numbered (beneath a portrait of Bishop White), Thomas Willing, Esq., President of the first Bank of the United States.

George Turner, Esq., Judge of the United States Court, appointed by President Washington, and a member of the Society of Cincinnati.



WASHINGTON'S SOFA.



NATIONAL MUSEUM—WEST ROOM.

RELICS IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM.

(WEST ROOM.)

Equestrian Portrait of Gen'l Washington. Painted by Rembrandt Peale.

Portraits of Daniel Williams; of Captain Andrew Mc-Meyer, shot at battle of Germantown; of Judge Turner, Statesman and Soldier of Virginia.

Portrait of Mrs. Richard Stockton (Annie Boudinot),

wife of one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, taken 1800.

Portrait of James Logan.

Portrait of Gouveneur Morris.

Portrait of John Hamilton, also Gen. Edward Hand.

Portrait and Autograph of James II.—ditto Charles II.

Portrait of Benj. Chew, Chief Justice of Penna.

Portrait of James Bowdoin, of Continental Congress, 1774.

Portrait of Charles II, copied from the original painted by Sir Peter Lely.

Portraits of Kings and Queens, purchased in Europe by Mr. Joseph Harrison, and placed in the museum by his widow, Mrs. Sarah Harrison. They include William and Mary, Queen Anne, George I, II, III. This portrait of George III, was painted by Ramsey, by order of the King, for the purpose of sending it to the Colonies in America.

Amongst the portraits may be found John Adams, Fisher Ames, William Allen, Pierre Adet (French Minister), William Bradford, Aaron Burr, M. Von Berchell (Dutch Minister), Chas. Brockden Brown.

Portraits of DeWitt Clinton; Hernandez Cortes; Rev. Ashbel Green; Gen. Horatio Gates; Chevalier Gerard, First French Minister appointed by the French Government. This portrait was painted by Charles Wilson Peale, the day following the public reception given in the inclosure opposite the State House, the State House itself having proved inadequate to admit the throng that pressed to do him honor. By suggestion of M. Gerard himself, the State House appears in the background of the painting.

Full length portrait of General LaFayette, taken by Sully in 1824, when he made his second visit to the United States.

- Portrait of Washington in Mosaic—"A gift to the City of Philadelphia, as a Souvenir of the first Centennial of the Independence of the United States of America, declared in that City, July 4, 1776." Presented by the Artist, L. A. Gallaudt, of the City of Rome, Italy.
- Bell cast at Warwick Furnace, 1757. and used in giving alarms at Valley Forge.
- German Record of Baptism, 1776.
- Book of Commissions, Certificates, etc.
- Brick from the House of John Printz, Governor of the Province of New Sweden, built in 1643.
- Lamp used during the Revolution.
- Badge of the Society of the Cincinnati.
- Silhouette of Francis Hopkinson, and Gold Anchor worn by him, 1790.
- Stone Cannon Ball, taken from the Chew House, Germantown, Pa.
- Button from the Coat of George Washington, worn at Mount Vernon.
- Commodore Perry's Signal Book of Lake Erie.
- Bench, made from the Pew in Christ Church (Second and Market streets); the Pew that was used there by General Washington, Franklin, La Fayette, and Bishop White.
- Autograph Letter of Francis S. Key to his Mother, when he composed the "Star Spangled Banner," and an Account of the Expedition he was on, aboard the Ship "Minden," when he Composed the Song.
- Letters of the Signers of the Constitution of the United States, 1787; also Letters of Benjamin Franklin, 1765-66; of John Quincy Adams, Aaron Burr, Robert Fulton, Napoleon Bonaparte, Baron Steuben, 1783, Benjamin Rush, Robert Morris, 1780; from Egermont to Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania, announcing a Change in the Government, 1761; Letters from General and Mrs. Washington, General Pulaski, Col. Hamilton, and others, to Clement Biddle.

- Silhouette of General George and Martha Washington.
- Inkstand, used by Michael Gregg, of the Continental Army.
- Model of the old Ship "Constitution," made by a Marine of twenty years service on board of her; also a Leather Water Bucket used aboard of her.
- A piece of wood of the Treaty Elm Tree.
- Picture of rear of State House, taken 1800.
- Picture of State House, 1788.
- Mss., Diary of Benjamin Hawkins, Indian Agent for Southern Territory, 1799.
- Quit Rent, receipt of 1755, and other papers of like interest.
- Lightning Rod from the Benjamin West Mansion, built 1765, under the direction of Benjamin Franklin.
- Robes, Ribbons, etc., worn at many Colonial and Peace rejoicings.
- Piece of Plymouth Rock.
- Proclamation of Patrick Henry to the people of Virginia, dated at Williamsburg, Virginia, 1778.
- Bible, printed 1698.
- Letters of Admiral Sir William Penn and Charles Reed of London, M. P. and F. S. A.
- Pewter Plate, that belonged to James Logan.
- Picture of John Hancock's House, taken just before it was torn down, and framed in the wood of the house.
- Holster Pistol, worn at the battle of Saratoga.
- Pistol captured from one of officers under the British General Tarleton, at the battle of the Cowpens, S. C.
- Plate of John Roberts; this plate is 150 years old.
- Views of "Belmont Hall," the house in which the first Legislature of the State of Delaware held its session, erected in 1790.
- Navy Memorial Pitcher.

Thanksgiving Proclamation 1792.

Pistol of George Mason, used in the Revolution, 1776.

Fac-Simile of the Non-Importation Resolutions of the Merchants of Philadelphia in 1765.

Two Dolls of Colonial Days.

Royal Monogram, from Battlefield at Eutaw Springs, S. C., 1781.

Copper Tea Kettle used by Wm. Penn during his second voyage to America, 1789.

Marriage License of Isaac Norris and Eleanor Thompson, March 27, 1771.

Original Letter of Benj. West, written from London, in which he speaks of the picture of the "Treaty Tree."

First Prayer in Congress, in the handwriting of John Hancock.

Painting of "Penn's Treaty," by Benjamin West, original picture. Purchased in Europe by Joseph Harrison, Esq., and deposited in this museum by his widow

Earthenware Pitcher used at the Battle of Germantown.

Pitcher Portrait of Genl. LaFayette.

Picture of Church at Alexandria, Va., framed in the pulpit wood.

Brewing Pot that belonged to Jonathan Morris.

"Eastern Prospect" of the City of Philadelphia, in the Province of Pennsylvania.

Picture of the Old Court House, built 1707 (Second and Market streets); taken down 1837.

Piece of the timber of the old Frigate Philadelphia.

Burial Place of Genl. LaFayette—oil painting by Henry.

Miniature of Col. Laurens, one of Genl. Washington's aids, afterwards appointed Minister to France.

Section of Beam from the (flag of truce) ship "Minden," on board of which Francis S. Key composed the "Star Spangled Banner."

Ale Mug of John Paul Jones.

Engraving of the U. S. Frigate "Alliance," framed in a piece of wood from her.

China Mug, in Effigy of Col. Washington after "Braddock's Defeat."

Musket captured by John Eyre at the Battle of Germantown; also his table and camp stool, sword and epaulettes, and dagger captured from the Hessians.

Gentlemen's Magazine, 1765.

Medal issued at the time of Genl. Washington's death, and numerous Medals of interest, Continental Money, &c.

Vest worn by French officer at the Battle of Germantown.

Volume. Votes of Pennsylvania General Assembly, 1788.

Curious token struck 1766, to commemorate the repeal of the Stamp Act.

Tinder Box, used during the Revolution.

Table of George Mason, of Va., upon which was written the "Rights of Virginia."

Tomahawks, stone arrow heads, &c.

Official Seal of Georgia, as an Independent State, directed by the convention that formed the Constitution of 1777.

Wooden Scales, made in 1750. Queen Anne Sixpence.

Swords of Judge Turner and Gen'l Anthony Wayne.

Sword of "William Penn," having Penn's name engraved on it.

Spinning Wheels used previous and during the Revolutionary War.

Insulating Stool and Air Pump, used by Benj. Franklin.

Earliest specimens of silk, from Rhode Island.

Pencil sketches by Benj. West.

Sword of Gen'l Benj. Pierce, carried in the battles of Germantown and Brandywine.

Map of Philadelphia, 1750, and others of early date.

Medallions of Genl. Washington and Genl. La Fayette.

Photograph copies of miniatures of Genl. and Mrs. Washington taken from life.

Cast of Washington's face taken after death—impression of his seal—fragment of his coffin—engraved copy of his farewell address—memorial pitcher—a Mezzotint by Peale, 1787—Hair of Genl. Washington, cut off by his sister, Mrs. Lewis—Spectacles—Visiting Cards, Pocket Compass and Sofa used by Genl. Washington. Genl. Washington's Masonic Apron, and Communication to Lodge.

Watch in "Copper Gilt," carried in the principal battles of the Revolution by John Baytiste Rehmidt. Given to him by Gen'l Washington himself.

Capt. John Rush's Watch and Sword, brought over by Capt. John Rush, of Cromwell's Army.

Likeness of Abraham Whipple.

Waistcoat worn at the Republican Court.

Vase made from the Penn Treaty Tree—also a Vase made from the house of the Adams family, Boston.

Original Deeds of Land, 1695 to 1774, and other early dates.

Cane that belonged to Geo. Read of Delaware, signer of the Declaration.

Clock Case of James Logan—Penn's Secretary, also Chair of Wm. Penn which seated La Fayette and Prince William. These articles were presented by James Logan to John F. Watson, author of the "Annals of Philadelphia."

Coupons of the Water Works of New York Colony, 1774.

Commission of Judge Turner, 1789.

Certificate of Membership of the Society of Cincinnati, 1785.

Coins—Colonial, Revolutionary, etc.

“Columbia Magazine,” 1787, Containing pictures of State House, 1778.

Amongst Newspapers of early dates is the “New England Courant,” 1723.

Cane, which Genl. La Fayette held in his hand when his portrait was painted.

Compass, made by David Rittenhouse, and used in the survey of the “Mason & Dixon’s” line.

Chair used by the First Continental Congress in New York, 1765.

Calendar of Dr. Franklin, 1774.

Iron “Crows-foot” from the site of the old Ford on the Susquehanna, opposite Sunbury, Pa.

Miniature, Major Jackson of S. Carolina.

Model of Independence Hall, 1776.

Hair of John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration.

Sword of Lieutenant Hogue, who with his whole detachment was massacred by the Indians at Blanket Hill, Aug., 1756.

Revolutionary Hats—Hessian Standard Tips. Captured at the battle of Trenton.

Cannon Ball, Grape Shot, Fork and Spoon found amongst the fortifications of Valley Forge.

Engraving of Centre Square, Philadelphia, now the site of the new Public Buildings.

Epaulettes worn by Genl. La Fayette; Remnant of Epaulette left in the coffin of Baron Steuben, when his remains were exhumed.

Original Deed of Land 1763, with signatures of the chiefs of six different Indian nations.

Drum beaten by a boy 12 years of age, at the battle of Germantown.

Engraving caricaturing Robert Morris, 1790, when the seat of government was moved from New York to Philadelphia.

Correct model of the Frigate Constitution, made of the original timber presented for the purpose by Com. Hull, to F. C. Labbe.

Commission of William to James Harrison, as his steward.

Chair of "Liberty and Equality," made of all memorial woods of America; used to stand in the old "Coffee House," Second and Market Sts.

Charter of the City of Philadelphia, 1701

Commission of Stephen Decatur.

Chairs of the Colonial Justices of the Supreme Court.

Autograph of Louis XVI., King William, and others.

Chair used by the Chief Justice of Penna.

Brick, from the Swedes' Church, at Tinnicum, consecrated Sept. 4, 1646.

Book, "Bacon's Abridgement," that was owned by Peyton Randolph, First President of the Continental Congress.

Military Note Book, 1776.

Cannon Ball and Shell, from Monmouth battle ground.

Tea Box and Plate, brought from London in the 16th century by Captain Ellis Bennett.

Earthen Punch-bowl, and China do., that regaled Genl. Washington, and many of his officers during the Revolution.

Punch-bowl that belonged to Capt. Simmons, Commander of the Birmingham Packet.

Book of Sermons by Dr. Bates, with Autograph of John Hancock, 1723.

Huguenot Bible brought to America by the family of Roux, who settled in Va.

Snuff Box made of wood from the old prison ship "Jersey."

Boot-jack and appliances left at the residence of Jacob Martin at the time of the Evacuation of Philadelphia by the British.

Sword captured during the Revolution from an English vessel by Lieutenant Castor.

Sword of British officer taken by Benager Miles, of Vermont, at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Sermon written by Rev. Justus Howard, 1764.

Sketch in Oil, Rossiter's sketch of the signing of the Constitution; Rossiter died before finishing it.

Pewter Spoon used by Gov. Martin. Sword used by John Hancock.

Picture of Admiral Charles Stewart, framed in wood of the old ship Constitution.

Stays and Slippers of 1776.

Infant Clothes worn by John Quincy Adams, and made by his mother; also, scarf worn by Mrs. J. Adams when she sat to Stuart for her portrait.

Seal of Capt. William Oliver, and Gold Scales used by Capt. Oliver, of the Continental army.

Sword worn by Capt. Oliver at the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Valley Forge, Trenton, Monmouth, and other points.

Celebrated Speech of Edmund Burke on America.

Section of "Triumphal Arch," under which Washington passed on his way to the first Presidency. Erected at Trenton, N. J., April 21, 1787.

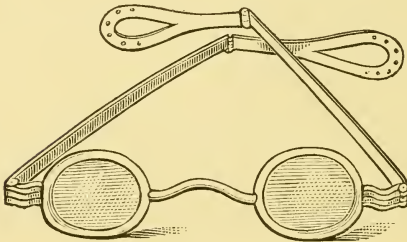
The original painting of "Penn's Treaty," by West, was placed in the Museum by Mrs. Harrison, it having been amongst her husband's purchases in Europe.

Articles of the Constitution of 1787 in fac simile, with Corrections and Interlining by himself, also first folio publication of same.

Photo-View of the Grave of William Penn, at Jordans, England.

Fac-Simile of the Declaration of Independence, 1776.

Fac-Simile of "Magna Charta," with the Seals of King John's securities to Magna Charta, and the Seals and Shields of the Barons.



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